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LEIGHTON BUZZARD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1947

H. E. C. SUTTON, MB., Ch.B., DPH.

Medical Officer of Health

B. H. ROBJANT, M.R. San.I.

Sanitary Inspector

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
LEIGHTON BUZZARD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report upon the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Leighton Buzzard Urban District for the year 1947.

A study of the vital statistics reveals a small fall in the death rate, otherwise there was no variation of importance from the previous year.

Unfortunately, the Urban District did not escape involvement in the fairly generalized outbreaks of infantile paralysis which affected most of the country. There were five cases notified and some permanent degree of disability is the almost certain result in three of these.

The incidence of the other notifiable infectious diseases was not unduly high.

In as much as the above factors are an indication, health has been satisfactory, in spite of enforced inadequacy in housing.

I welcome this opportunity of thanking the officials of the district and the staff for their helpful co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

H. E. C. SUTTON,
Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1948.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

				Total	Male	Female
Live Births—	Legitimate	...	...	153	77	76
	Illegitimate	...	...	13	5	8
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	...		166	82	84
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 21.5.

Birth Rate for England and Wales, 20.5.

				Total	Male	Female
Still Births—	Legitimate	...	...	2	1	1
	Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	...		2	1	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births is 11.9.

DEATHS

				Total	Male	Female
Deaths	...	...	...	78	33	45

giving a death rate of 10.1 per 1,000 of the resident population.
Death Rate for England and Wales is 12.0.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)

					Death Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births
No. 29.	Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	...	0		0.0
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes	...	0		0.0
			<hr/>		
			0		
			<hr/>		

MATERNITY MORTALITY FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Abortion with Sepsis	...	0.10	per 1000	(live and still) births
Abortion without Sepsis	...	0.06	„ „ „ „ „ „	
Puerperal Infections	...	0.16	„ „ „ „ „ „	
Others	...	0.85	„ „ „ „ „ „	

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Four deaths occurred amongst all infants under one year of age, giving a death rate of 24.1 per 1,000 live births.

STAFF IN PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT—1947

Medical Officer of Health: H. E. C. Sutton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector: B. H. Robjant, M.R.San.I.

Meat Inspector: P. C. Creagh, M.R.C.V.S.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Housing Manager: G. P. Delahoy, A.A.L.P.A.

WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT

Water Engineer: B. Kirk.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2487
Population, Census for 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7030
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population up to Mid Year, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7730
Number of Inhabited Houses (at end of 1947) according to the Rate Book	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2297
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£44163
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£168

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Sand quarrying is one of the main industries of the town. At present only three quarries are being worked, but as the development of this industry is being considered by the Town Planning Authority, other pits which have been idle during the war period, may again become operative according to the decision of that authority.

The sand industry has brought about other industrial developments consisting of four factories which are manufacturing concrete roofing tiles; one Concrete Works which manufactures pre-cast concrete products, and one Sand Lime Brick Works, which has just ceased production for experimental work.

Prior to the last war a number of dermatitis cases occurred amongst the workers in the tile factories, but this trouble appears to have been overcome as I have received no information of any further cases occurring.

The latest industrial development in the town is a Precision Engineering Works and two factories which manufacture plastic products.

					Male	Female
Deaths from	Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	1	9
"	" Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0	0
"	" Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0	0
"	" Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0	0
"	" Scarlet Fever (all ages)	...	...	...	0	1
"	" Diphtheria	...	...	...	0	0

CAUSES OF DEATH

						Male	Female
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0	1
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0	0
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0	0
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	0
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	0	0
8	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
9	Influenza	...	...	...	...	0	0
10	Measles	...	...	...	...	0	0
11	Acute Polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
12	Acute infective encephalitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
13	Cancer of b. cavity and œsophagus (M), Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	0	2
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	0	3
15	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	0	1
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	1	3
17	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	0	0
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	5	8
19	Heart disease	...	...	...	...	9	6
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	0	2
21	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	3	5
22	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	0
23	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
24	Ulceration of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	0	0
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	0	0
26	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	0	2
29	Puerperal and Post-Abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	0	0
30	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	0	0
31	Premature birth	...	...	...	...	1	1
32	Congenital Malformations, birth injuries and infantile diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
33	Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	1
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	0	1
35	Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	1	0
36	All other causes	...	...	...	...	6	7
All Causes						33	45

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory Service, directed by the Medical Research Council, acting for the Ministry of Health, has established a laboratory at the Town Hall, Luton.

One of the main functions of this service is to co-operate with General Practitioners and Medical Officers of Health in the diagnosis, prevention and control of infectious diseases. For these purposes the laboratory will undertake the examination of material, e.g., throat swabs, sputa, faeces, blood from any patient suspected to be suffering from a communicable infection, or of being a carrier.

The service is free of charge.

2. AMBULANCE FACILITIES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES: An ambulance is kept at Dunstable Isolation Hospital for these cases.

ACCIDENT, EMERGENCY AND OTHER CASES: The service provided by the Bedfordshire County Council has satisfactorily met the increasing demands that are occurring. It covers the full twenty-four hours, and is free of charge.

In addition to moving emergency cases, ambulance or sitting-case car transport is available for carrying patients unable to travel by other means to Hospitals and Clinics, at which attendance is necessary for the purpose of receiving medical treatment.

Except in the case of an emergency, the request for an ambulance must be made by the Medical Practitioner or other Authorised Person. This should be to the nearest depot.

Depots are situated as follows:

AMPTHILL, Claridges Lane. Telephone: Ampthill 2187.

BEDFORD, Newnham Avenue. Telephone: Bedford 4875.

BIGGLESWADE, Crab Lane. Telephone: Biggleswade 2295.

DUNSTABLE, High Street North. Telephone: Dunstable 76.

LINSLADE, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard and Wing Division of the St.

John Ambulance Brigade Headquarters, 10, New Road, Linslade.

Telephone: Leighton Buzzard 3332.

LUTON, 42, Church Street. Telephone: Luton 4600.

RUSHDEN, Rushden and District Motor Ambulance Association, Mr.

C. C. Woods, 3, Purvis Road. Telephone: Rushden 403.

WOBURN SANDS, The Woburn Sands and District Ambulance Service,

“ Horse Grove,” Station Road. Telephone: Woburn Sands 3107.

3. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME

General Nursing—There is one nurse employed by the Leighton Buzzard Nursing Association. She attends to minor medical and surgical cases, but is not allowed to nurse any disease of an infectious nature. In addition, she also attends to midwifery and maternity cases, and is a Queen's Nurse—Nurse Curry, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Midwifery—The employment and registration of Midwives is undertaken by the County Council.

The number practising in the district is two, one being employed by the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association, and the other by the Local Nursing Association. The latter is, in addition, responsible for General Nursing.

Their names and addresses are:

Nurse Curry, S.R.N., S.C.M., 12, Beaudesert, Leighton Buzzard.

Nurse M. D. Chapman, Reg. Asst. Nurse, S.C.M., 144, Stanbridge Road, Leighton Buzzard.

HEALTH VISITING

There is one Health Visitor employed by the County Council, who visits the homes of mothers to give advice and help.

4. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

INFANT WELFARE CLINIC—Grovebury Road, every Friday 2-4 p.m.,
alternate Fridays 10 a.m.-12 noon.

A Medical Officer and Health Visitor are in attendance, assisted by a local Nurse and several voluntary lady workers.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC—Grovebury Road, alternate Fridays, 10 a.m.-
12 noon.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC—Luton and Dunstable Hospital:

Males—Mondays,	2 p.m.-8 p.m.	(Doctor in attendance)
Tuesdays,	5.30 p.m.-8 p.m.	
Wednesdays,	5.30 p.m.-8 p.m.	
Thursdays,	5.30 p.m.-8 p.m.	
Fridays,	2 p.m.-8 p.m.	(Doctor in attendance)
Females—Mondays,	2 p.m.-8 p.m.	
Tuesdays,	9 a.m.-7 p.m.	
Wednesdays,	9 a.m.-7 p.m.	
Thursdays,	9 a.m.-7 p.m.	
Fridays,	2 p.m.-8 p.m.	
Saturdays,	9 a.m.-12 noon	

CHEST CLINIC—St. Mary's Hospital, Grove Road, Luton:
Mondays, 10 a.m.-12 noon—New cases and Contacts.
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-12 noon—Children.
Tuesdays, 6.15 p.m.—Male and Female A.P. Refills.
Tuesdays, 1.15 p.m.-4 p.m.—Male Clinic.
Thursdays, 10 a.m.-12 noon—Female Clinic.
Fridays, 6.15 p.m.—Male and Female A.P. Refills.

The County Council Sanatorium is at Mogerhanger.

5 HOSPITALS

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, and cases of Measles and Whooping Cough, with complications, are treated at the Dunstable and District Isolation Hospital. Other cases of infectious disease requiring Hospital treatment are usually sent to Spittlesea Hospital, Luton.

GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL AND MATERNITY CASES—These are usually admitted into either The Luton and Dunstable Hospital, Luton, The Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, or St. Mary's Hospital, Luton.

TUBERCULOSIS—The County Council has a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Mogerhanger. Cases from the County are also admitted to other Sanatoria.

DAY NURSERY

There is a County Council Day Nursery, situated in Bassett Road, with accommodation for fifty children.

DIPHTHERIA AND SCARLET FEVER—The Council grant supplies of Anti-toxin and Scarlet Fever Serum for the treatment of these diseases.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM—The County Council are responsible for arranging treatment for cases of this disease.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

ADOPTIVE ACTS

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1890.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, AMENDMENT ACT, 1907.

Part II adopted.

Part VI adopted.

Part VII Section 81 adopted only.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

The whole adopted with the exception of Section 22.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Section 1 adopted.

BYELAWS

BUILDING BYELAWS.

BYELAWS FOR NEW STREETS.

SCHOOLS

The Schools in the town are as follows:

1. County Secondary Modern Boys—

Average number of pupils on the roll ... 148

Average attendance ... 134

Sanitary accommodation consists of six water closets and one urinal.

2. County Secondary Modern Girls—

Average number of pupils on the roll ... 143

Average attendance ... 129

Sanitary accommodation consists of nine water closets.

3. County Primary Boys—
Average number of pupils on the roll ... 188
Average attendance 176
Sanitary accommodation consists of five water closets and one urinal.
4. County Primary Girls—
Average number of pupils on the roll ... 181
Average attendance 164
Sanitary accommodation consists of six water closets.
5. County Primary Infants—
Average number of pupils on the roll ... 225
Average attendance 200
Sanitary accommodation consists of six water closets and one urinal.
These schools have all a supply of water from the Council's main.

There is also a Grammar School in the town, attended by girls and boys from Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding district.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

No school was closed during the year under review on account of Infectious Disease.

RAINFALL

The station at which the rainfall is taken is Woburn. The diameter of the funnel of the rain gauge is 8 inches. Height above the ground is 12 inches. Altitude is 291 feet above sea level. Latitude 52 deg. 1 min. N. Longitude 0 deg. 35 min. W.

		Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours		Rainfall in Previous Years		
	Total	Inches	Date	Year	Woburn	England & Wales
January	1.61	0.32	7	1938	20.84	35.6
February	1.61	0.45	21			
March	4.71	0.75	12	1939	29.89	40.3
April	1.70	0.36	23	1940	27.60	35.6
May	1.01	0.25	2	1941	25.52	33.8
June	1.46	0.41	27	1942	19.49	35.9
July	1.15	0.26	16	1943	19.09	33.4
August	0.04	0.03	4	1944	22.33	35.3
September	1.02	0.28	20	1945	20.65	33.27
October	0.23	0.11	8	1946	28.24	41.6
November	1.32	0.35	18	1947	18.46	35.23
December	2.60	0.54	25			
Total	18.46					

It was a year of extremes. At Great Barford a maximum temperature of 90 deg. F. on June 3 and a minimum temperature of 4 deg. F. on February 24 were registered. On 84 days the shade temperature exceeded 70 deg. F.

In March there was 5.10 inches rain (melted snow) and in the three consecutive months of August, September and October the total was 1.28 inches, with an absolute drought of 36 days.

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. Mann, of the Woburn Experimental Farm, and Mr. Arnold Whitchurch, of Great Barford, for supplying me with the above information.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY

The town is provided with water from two boreholes sunk into the greensand at the Waterworks, Stanbridge Road. The supply throughout the year has been satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

The main supply is obtained from a 27-inch diameter borehole, 250 feet deep, and is raised by an eight stage 8-inch diameter electrically driven centrifugal pump at the rate of 15,000 gallons per hour through three 8-foot diameter Candy's iron extraction pressure filters and is then boosted through a 7-inch rising main to a 400,000 gallon covered reservoir at Shenley Hill.

This plant, since it was installed in 1944, has been housed in a temporary wood structure which has been replaced this year with a permanent brick building.

The 20-inch diameter borehole sunk to a depth of 211 feet is maintained as an alternative supply. The water is raised and passed through the pressure filters direct to the reservoir at the rate of 10,000 gallons per hour by means of an electrically driven centrifugal pump which has a capacity of 12,000 gallons per hour.

The water is chlorinated at the Waterworks, Stanbridge Road, by a Candy Minor Chlorinator, 0.2 parts per 1,000,000 being pumped into the rising main.

The Council have now acquired an additional $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land adjoining their Waterworks in Stanbridge Road and tenders are to be invited for sinking a third borehole.

The purity of the supply was controlled by routine sampling from the source and from various points in the supply system. A chemical analysis was made of the water at the source and of the water as supplied for public use.

Quarterly samples were taken from domestic taps throughout the district and submitted for bacteriological examination.

All reports received on these samples proved the supply to be of a high standard of purity.

The following are particulars of the number of population supplied from Public Water Mains:

	No. of houses	Population
Direct to houses ...	2,266	8,219
From stand pipes ...	25	74

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewerage of the district is on the separate system. The northern portion of the town is drained by gravitation to the sewage disposal works, and the southern portion of the town is drained to four ejector stations where the sewage is raised by means of compressed air through cast iron rising mains to the high level sewers whence it gravitates to the sewage disposal works. The compressed air is generated at the Waterworks, Stanbridge Road, and is conveyed by means of cast iron pipes to the four ejector stations.

The ejectors have been overhauled by the Engineer with satisfactory results, as no reports have been received of the sewers overflowing in the low lying areas of the town.

A scheme is being prepared for linking up the drainage from the three existing ejector stations in Hockliffe Road, South Street and Lake Street by means of a new outfall sewer which will follow the valley of the Clipstone Brook from Hockliffe Road to a site adjacent to Chain Bridge where a pumping station will be constructed to raise the sewage by means of electrically operated centrifugal pumps through a cast iron rising main direct to the Sewage Disposal Works.

The remaining ejectors in Bridge Street will be replaced by new ejectors which will be supplied with compressed air from a Compressor Station situated on land on the north side of Bridge Street. It is proposed to use the existing 5-inch rising main which will still discharge into the high level sewer in North Street, although a connection will be made between the 5-inch main and the new pumping main from Chain Bridge at the south end of Friday Street.

The sewage is treated at the Sewage Disposal Works by means of two continuous flow settling tanks, three 74-foot diameter clinker filters, two humus tanks, and a chlorinating plant at the entrance to the works.

The sludge from the settling tanks is raised through a rising main to shallow drying beds at the extreme end of the Works.

A Storm water tank is provided for dealing with over three times the dry weather flow, which has a weir outlet and overflow to the irrigation area.

It is proposed to construct a balancing tank into which the new pumping main will discharge in order to maintain a steady flow to the settling tanks.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The rivers and streams in the Urban area were periodically inspected and were found to be free from any serious pollution.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There is a swimming bath situated in the grounds of the Cedars School for the use of the pupils and members of the staff, which is provided with a chlorinating plant.

The Spinney Pool in Billington Road, which was once a sandpit, is still used by the public for bathing and swimming. It covers an area of approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and although there is no inlet or outlet to the pool a certain amount of natural aeration must take place.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The weekly collection of house refuse is still in operation, and trade refuse is collected on application at a charge of ninepence per dustbin.

Kitchen waste is collected from public bins, households and other establishments at frequent intervals, for delivery to the Luton Corporation Processing Plant.

Waste paper and other kinds of salvage is collected from households and business premises each week.

Refuse is disposed of at the Council's controlled tip in Vandyke Road, which is kept under strict supervision in order to prevent nuisances arising from the use of same.

The tip was kept entirely free from rats, and, although the summer season was very warm, infestations of crickets were kept entirely under control. The treatment of the tip with Gammexane powder was carried out by the Council's staff, and a rotary sprayer was used for this purpose. This work has, in the past, been put out to Contract, but it was proved to be more advantageous to carry out the work ourselves, as it was possible to apply a treatment immediately there were signs of an infestation.

Street gullies are periodically cleansed and flushed with clean water, and during hot spells the latter operation is repeated as often as required.

Cesspools in the outlying parts of the district are emptied by arrangement with the Luton Rural District Council.

DISINFECTION

Premises are disinfected after the removal or recovery of infectious cases, and disinfectant fluid is supplied to the public at the Council's West Street Depot.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The furniture and bedding of 55 families re-housed by the Council were fumigated with Hydrogen Cyanide in a furniture van by a London firm of Fumigating Contractors.

Special care is always taken to ensure that the bedding is free from danger before the keys of the new houses are handed over to the tenants.

Strict supervision is kept on all Council houses and close inspections are made when there is a change of tenancy.

Infestations, whether in Council Houses or private houses, are promptly dealt with by fumigation or spraying.

Tenants are encouraged to report any signs of infestation or re-infestation of their houses.

CAMPING SITES

Two licences were issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the occupation of caravans for a period of twelve months.

KNACKERS' YARD

There is one knackers' yard suitably situated on the outskirts of the district, which is kept in a satisfactory condition.

BAKEHOUSES

There are eight bakehouses in the district, one of which is underground. They are all kept in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES

The following are the principal factories in the town which employ a considerable number of hands:

- 3 Concrete Roofing Tile Works.
- 1 Floor Tile Works.
- 2 Manufacturers of Concrete Products.
- 1 Manufacturer of Blast Grit.
- 1 Manufacturer of Precision Instruments.
- 1 Manufacturer of Plastics.
- 2 Sandwashing and Grading Plants.
- 1 Corset Factory.
- 2 Clothing Factories.
- 1 Laundry.
- 2 Agricultural Engineering Works.
- 1 Sawmill.
- 1 Flour Mill.
- 1 Gas Works.

PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	NUMBER OF			Occupiers prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices		
Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	14	21	—		—
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	60	60	1		—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises) ...	2	2	—		—
Total ...	76	83	1		—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

Particulars	Number of Defects		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	1	1	—
Sanitary Accommodation: ...			
(a) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	3	—
(b) Not separate for sexes ...	1	—	—
(c) Other offences ...	1	1	—
Total: ...	7	5	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUT-WORK (Sections 110 and 111)—There were no persons so employed.

The remainder of the factories where only small numbers of hands are employed, chiefly consist of: Brush Makers, Basket Makers, Joiners, General Engineers, Saddlers, Printers and Furriers.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	87
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	... ..	233
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	... ..	17
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	... ..	19
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	1
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding subhead) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	14

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	5
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A.	Proceedings under section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1935.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	2
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil
C.	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
D.	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil

5 BAKEHOUSES

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

6. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

7. FOOD (PREPARATION AND MANUFACTURE) PREMISES.

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

8. VARIOUS.

Removal of animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits to infected houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Verminous houses fumigated or sprayed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The milk supply is obtained from the Urban District and the Luton and Wing Rural Districts. Pasteurised milk is also delivered into the district in bulk and in bottles. Inspections of farms and dairies have been made and samples of milk taken and tested for cleanliness.

ICE CREAM

Strict supervision is kept over the sale and manufacture of ice cream. Samples are taken and tested, and when found not to be entirely satisfactory thorough investigations are made in order to locate and remedy the cause of the trouble.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	687	573	2281	31
All diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole Carcases condemned	—	—	4	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was Condemned	182	4	63	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	26.49 %	0.69 %	2.93 %	12.90 %
Tuberculosis only				
Whole Carcases condemned	19	1	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was Condemned	122	1	2	—
Percentage of the number infected affected with tuberculosis	20.52 %	0.34 %	0.17 %	0.00 %

Inspections were made at various shops and premises, and the following articles of food were examined and condemned :—

194½ lbs. Canned Meat.	30 tins Jam.
189 lbs. Imported Meat.	37½ lbs. Meat Pies.
20 lbs. Fish	16 tins Soup.
252 lbs. Cereals.	34 tins Fruit.
150 lbs. Fruit.	261 tins Vegetables.
52¼ lbs. Bacon.	64 tins Fish.
2 tins Dried Egg.	310 tins Milk.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, NOTIFIABLE AND
OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Isolation Hospital, Kensworth Lane, Dunstable, administered by the Dunstable and District Hospital Joint Committee, receives cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, and cases of Measles and Whooping Cough,, with complications, from the district. Other cases of Infectious Disease requiring treatment are usually sent to Spittlesea Hospital, Luton.

DUNSTABLE AND DISTRICT ISOLATION HOSPITAL :

Patients in hospital from the district on January 1st, 1947 :—
NIL

Admissions :—

Scarlet Fever	...	12 *
Diphtheria	...	5 †
Erysipelas	...	2

* including two suspected cases
† including three suspected cases

Discharges :—

Scarlet Fever	...	8
Diphtheria	...	2
Erysipelas	...	2
Other Cases	...	5

Deaths :— 1

Number of patients in hospital on December 31st, 1947 :—

Scarlet Fever	...	1
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SPITTLESEA ISOLATION HOSPITAL :

8 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis, 2 of which were suspected cases and were later found not to be suffering from this disease, 1 case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and 3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were admitted to the above Hospital.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SMALLPOX.—No cases were notified.

SCARLET FEVER.—Twelve cases were notified, all were admitted to hospital. One case died.

DIPHTHERIA.—Two cases were notified. One was a child aged two who had been immunised. The other was an adult. Both were admitted to hospital and made a good recovery.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—Three cases were notified, admitted to hospital and made a satisfactory recovery.

ERYSIPELAS.—Three cases were notified, two of which were admitted to hospital and the other isolated and treated at home. All recovered satisfactorily.

MEASLES.—One hundred and ninety-nine cases were notified, the greatest number being within the five and ten age groups. There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Four cases were notified. There were no deaths.

CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS.—One case was notified, admitted to hospital and recovered.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.—Five cases were notified, two aged three the others aged 4, 8 and 10 years. The onset of the first case was on 26th May, followed by the other cases on 30th of the same month, 19th June, 28th August and 25th December. In three cases the likelihood of a fairly severe degree of resultant disability exists. All cases, after an initial period of isolation, were treated in the Alexandra Orthopaedic Hospital.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1947

Disease	Number of Cases Notified.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	
	At all Ages.	Under 1 yr.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65			65 Upwards
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Small Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	12	..	..	1	2	1	5	2	..	1	..	..	..	12	1
Diphtheria	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	..
Pneumonia	9	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	4	..	2
Erysipelas	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	2	..
Measles	199	9	13	21	27	20	96	4	2	7	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	4	1	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-Myelitis	5	..	..	..	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
Totals	241	10	13	24	34	22	109	6	2	13	1	3	5	25	1

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING 1947

Age-Periods.					New Cases.				Deaths.			
					Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...
20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	I	...	...	...
55	..	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	I	I	...	...	...

DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation is carried out at frequent sessions at the Infant Welfare Centre, and by arrangement with one of the General Practitioner's at Schools and at his Surgery.

The number of children who have been completely immunised against Diphtheria during the year under review and also during previous years is set out in the table below.

I. IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time to December 31st, 1947.

Age at 31.12.47	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-14	Total Under 15
Born in years	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1933-1942	
Number Immunised	7	69	61	82	71	173	463
Estimated mid-year Population 1947.			631			962	

Owing to the fact that the degree of immunity becomes less with the lapse of time, the Ministry of Health has advised that "reinforcement" or "booster" inoculations should be given after a period of four years to maintain the protection at a sufficiently high level. This means that a child first immunised at about the time of the first birthday should have a second inoculation at the age of five on its entry into school.

Arrangements are being made to make these re-inoculations available to all cases requiring them.

2. DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN RELATION TO IMMUNISATION.

NOTIFICATIONS			DEATHS		
Age at date of notification	Number of cases notified	Number of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisation	Age at date of Death	Number of Deaths	Number of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisation
Under 1 ..	—	—	Under 1 ..	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—
2	—	—	2	—	—
3	1	1	3	—	—
4	—	—	4	—	—
5-9 ..	—	—	5-9 ..	—	—
10-14 ..	—	—	10-14 ..	—	—
Totals ..	1	1	Totals ..	0	0

All Tuberculosis cases have been notified, therefore the ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths to total Tuberculosis Deaths is nil.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No action was required to be taken under these Acts.

DISINFECTION OF VERMINOUS PERSONS

The nearest Cleansing Station is situated in the Borough of Luton. There were no cases sent for treatment during the year.

SCABIES ORDER, 1941

By arrangements with the County Council, infected persons are treated at the Health Centre, Dunstable.

During the year under review 14 persons have received treatment.

The Scabies Order, 1941, ceased to be operative at the end of 1947. In future verminous conditions will be dealt with under normal Statutory Powers, as contained in the Public Health Acts for dealing with Verminous Conditions.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—No action was required under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

CANCER

10 deaths were registered, 1 male and 9 females. They are tabulated as follows

Males :—

- 0 cases of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus.
- 0 cases of Stomach and Duodenum.
- 1 case of All other sites

Females :—

- 2 cases of Uterus.
- 3 cases of Stomach and Duodenum.
- 1 case of Breast.
- 3 cases of All other sites.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1947 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Total Births.				Total Deaths Registered in the District.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Live Births		Still Births		Number.	Rate.	No of Non-residents registered in the District.	No of Resi-dents not registered in the District.	Under One Year of Age		At all Ages.	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1940	7500	116	16.57	4	0.57	88	11.73	18	28	3	25.8	98	13.07
1941	8604	114	13.24	5	0.58	68	7.94	17	47	4	35.0	98	11.39
1942	7848	117	14.90	1	0.12	63	8.06	4	46	8	68.3	105	13.39
1943	7600	114	15.00	0	0.00	53	6.99	3	40	0	0.00	90	11.84
1944	7601	126	16.57	4	0.52	66	8.68	8	45	9	71.4	103	13.55
1945	7550	163	21.59	6	0.78	63	8.34	0	32	5	30.6	95	12.59
1946	7572	168	22.72	4	0.53	70	9.24	2	35	4	23.8	103	13.73
1947	7730	166	21.50	2	0.25	58	7.50	3	23	4	24.1	78	10.10

Population 1931 Census—7030.

